(ii) Improve production technology of shipyards such as advance outfitting, modular construction, etc.

(iii) Augmentation of production facilities to optimise capacity utilization of shipyards.

(iv) More effective production planning and control system.

(v) Efforts to secure further orders for ships for better capacity utilization.

Effect of High lending Rates on Small Scale Industry

2668. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high lending rates of commercial banks have adversely affected the small scale industrial units and the building industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for providing adequate relief to these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that the raising of lending rates is a measure aimed at bringing about greater financial discipline, improved productivity and control of inventory build-up. With the macro-economic imbalance in the economy, which is reflected in a large budget deficit, excess liquidity in the economy and a large balance of Payments current account deficit, it became imperative to take remedial measures to rectify the imbalance, Raising of lending rates is one such anti-inflationary measure, Since the interest rates have recently been revised with impact on SSI units 9,1991, it is a little early to asses the impact on SSI units and the building industry.

(c) In view of the above, does not arise.

Opening of new Sale Centres of NTC in Orissa

2669. SHRI K.PRADHANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be please to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has any proposal to open new sale centres in Orissa during the current financial year,

(b) if so, whether the NTC has made any market study in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details there of.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Recovery of Excise Duty

2670. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of excise duty recovered during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of industrial units which have paid it voluntarily and the number of those units which made payment on the orders of the Courts;

(c) whether there are some industrial units which have not paid excise duty despite the orders of the courts;